

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 17-20 are pending.

Claims 1-16 have been cancelled.

Claims 17-20 have been added.

Support for the amendments is found in the claims and specification, as originally filed. Claims 17-20 comprise the limitations of claims 1-2, 14, and 16 and are also supported in paragraphs [0024]-[0025] of the original specification.

No new matter is believed to have been added.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the telephone interview conducted on October 29, 2009. We discussed claims directed to a deodorant verses claims directed to a method of deodorizing formaldehyde. The Examiner suggested submitting a response with the claims directed to the method.

Claims 1, 2, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ito et al., JP 09-201424. Claims 3 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ito et al. and Pearson, US 4,552,803. The rejections are traversed because Ito et al. alone or in combination with Pearson do not describe or suggest a method of deodorizing formaldehyde.

Ito et al. describe a fire extinguishing powder which is a mixture of ammonium dihydrophosphate and ammonium sulfate (abstract). Ito et al. describe that improving the mobility of fire extinguishing powders in a pressurized type powder fire extinguisher applied to an ordinary wood fire is important but has not been achieved with known powders ([0003]-[0006], [0040]-[0042]).

Pearson describes a fire retardant composition comprising a powder of ammonium phosphate. However, Pearson does not describe or suggest a method of deodorizing formaldehyde with the powder.

The Examiner on page 6, last three lines, admits that “since the claims are drawn to a composition, and not to a method of deodorizing formaldehyde odors, the prior art meets the claim by teaching an amine salt of a phosphoric acid applied to plywood.”

The claims submitted herewith are directed to a method of deodorizing formaldehyde.

Thus, Ito et al. alone or in combination with Pearson do not make the claimed method obvious because the claims filed herewith are directed to a method of deodorizing formaldehyde which is not described or suggested by the cited references.

Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.


A Notice of Allowance for all pending claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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